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Foreign Crops and MARKETS

VOLUME 54

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Output of Manufactured Dairy Froducts in Most Chief Producing Countries, 1st Quarter 1947, Above Last Year's Level for Same Period (Page 380).

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LATE NEWS

Egypt's cotton crop is now undergoing one of the most serious leaf-worm infestations ever reported in that country. About 180,000 acres are already infested, an area equal to about 14 percent of the 1946 plantings. The heaviest infestation is in the long-staple area of the northern Delta.

Argentine fruit consisting of 14,240 boxes of pears, 39,000 boxes (22 bounds) of grapes, and 200 boxes of apples are aboard the Rio Mendoza which sailed May 14 for New York. From South Africa, the African Mood sailed May 13 with 4,472 boxes (10 pounds) of grapes.

A group of six weaving plants in Shanghai, which have earmarked part of their silk-piece goods production for export, have shipped 30,116 pieces of Chinese silk to India in May. These pieces were 50 yards in length and mostly of 27 inch width, with a small percentage 45 inches wide. Export of these goods is reportedly subsidized by the Bank of China through the Central Trust. Present monthly output of the looms controlled by the six plants is about 16,000 pieces.

Uganda's 1946-47 cotton crop is now estimated at 183,000 bales of 500 pounds gross, compared with an earlier estimate of 229,000 and a 1945-46 crop of 191,000 bales. Heavy rains fell during the picking season and cotton stainers were prevalent, causing reduced yields and below-average quality of fiber. In the areas affected most, some cotton fields were plowed under and planted to food crops before picking was completed.

Turkish vineyards were severely damaged by heavy frost on April 15. In the Denizli district, 15,000 acres are said to be severely damaged, and in the important Immir-Manisa district, the loss is estimated at 70 percent of the total crop, and in Nigde at 80 to 90 percent. A survey of the damage has not been completed, but on the basis of present information Turkish raisin production in 1947 will be one of the poorest in recent years.

Canada has announced an increase in value for duty on lettuce and cabbage imports into Ontario and Quebec of 11/5 cent per pound over invoice prices. The rise on lettuce was effective May 27; on cabbage May 30. Purchases made before June 6 for lettuce and June 9 for cabbage, which enter customs on or before the effective dates for the duty increases, are exempt from this valuation order.

Havana butcher shops hung out "closed--no meat" signs on May 19. Beef can still be purchased at above-ceiling prices outside the city, however. Simultaneously Havana slaughter-house workers decided to kill no hogs, lambs, or goats, on which the city's population has mainly depended for the past two months. Cuba recently has exempted live-beef cattle, sheep and goats, beef, and mutton from import duties, if obtained from countries free of foot-and-mouth disease.

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COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS, AND FEEDS

CANADA'S WHEAT SEEDING NEARLY COMPLETED

Wheat seeding was nearing completion in some areas of Canada, but only about 83 percent had been seeded in some regions, according to a report issued near the end of May by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Below-normal temperatures during late May had retarded germination and growth in many districts. Rainfall during April was well below normal in the principal Provinces, but subsoil moisture was still adequate to maintain generally good moisture conditions. Crop prospects at that time were generally satisfactory, though rains were needed, especially in some districts where soil drifting had commenced.

In Manitoba, wheat seeding was nearing completion and more than 50 percent of the coarse grains had been seeded. Below-normal temperature had retarded growth, but germination was generally satisfactory. Rainfall during April was below average, but moisture reserves appeared adequate.

Subnormal temperatures had retarded growth in Saskatchewan, where about 83 percent of the wheat seeding had been completed. Approximately 58 percent of the coarse grain had been seeded. Soil moisture conditions were reported to be fair to good, with some local soil drifting and rain needed in those areas. Warmer weather was needed to speed germination.

Wheat seeding in Alberta was about 90 percent completed and slightly more than half the coarse grains were in the ground. Moisture conditions were generally favorable for germination and early growth, but rains were needed in some districts to replenish topsoil moisture. Cool weather had retarded growth over most of the Province and warmer weather was required to promote growth.

INDIA'S GRAIN
CROPS SMALL

Total production of grain in India for 1947 is about at the same level as in 1946, but wheat production is about 8 percent smaller, according to a recent forecast. The wheat crop placed at about 305 million bushels is even less than last year's poor harvest, and would be the smallest crop produced since 1928. The barley outturn, reported at about 96 million bushels, would also be one of the smallest crops on record. Production of millet and grain sorghums is smaller than a year ago, but the tonnage reduction in cereals is largely balanced by increased rice production.

BORGER BOOK

The reduction in wheat is attributed to unfavorable growing conditions, with acreage virtually the same as in 1945 when the near-record outturn of 394 million bushels was reported. Rust damage was reported to be the worst

in 20 years in central India, the United Provinces, Hyderabad, and Bombay, as a result of unfavorable weather conditions during December-January. If the crop outturn is as small as indicated, import needs will again be large this year. United States exports to India for the 10 months ended April 1947 amounted to 610,000 short tons of wheat and flour and 340,000 tons of coarse grains. Addition shipments to India are called for under the May-July export program.

ARGENTINA HARVESTS NEAR-RECORD RICE CROP

In Argentina, the first official estimate of the 1947 rice crop of 8,123,000 bushels is nearly equal to the record production of 8,559,000 in 1944, and more than twice the prewar average output. Slightly over 117,000 acres were planted, compared with 122,000 in the preceding year. Production surpassed last year's crop by 5 percent, but information is not yet available as to whether the increase resulted from a gain in area harvested or from a larger yield per acre.

> ARGENTINA: Rice production, trade, and utilization, averages 1926-40 annual 1943-47

averages 1920-40, annual 1943-47													
	: Acreage	Yield	:_ Produ	ction	:Ne	:Apparent							
Year	harvested	per acre	Rough	Milled	Imports	Exports	:utiliza- : tion						
Average-	1,000 bushels		1,000 bushels	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	:Million :pounds						
1926-30 1931-35 1936-40 1943	10 25	37.7 42.2 59.8 57.8 66.9 53.2 71.6	377 1,054 3,112 4,852 8,559 6,807 7,736 8,123	10 31 91 142 250 199 226 238	140 88 52 - - - -	a/ 13 6 b/ 9	: 150 : 119 : 143 : 142 : 237 : 193 : 200						

Compiled from official sources. 2/ Less than 500,000 pounds. b/ January-September only. c/ Planted acreage.

Production in 1947 may ensure some increase in export supplies over those of 1946, depending on the quantity needed for domestic utilization. As of September 6, 1946, an export quota was fixed at 15 million pounds of rice plus 33 million of rice byproducts until April 30, 1947. Exports from January through September 1946 were 9 million pounds.

RICE RATION REDUCED IN BRITISH MALAYA

Decreased supplies in British Malaya in recent months caused a reduction in the basic rice ration, which became effective May 19. In Singapore, the ration per week was reduced as follows: Men. from 3-2/3 to 3-1/3 pounds; women, from 2-2/3 to 2 pounds, and children from 1-2/3 pounds to 1 pound. The weekly allowance in the Malayan Union was decreased to 2 pounds per person. Some gain in arrivals from Brazil in December and January, together with prospective imports from south Asia, made plausible a slight increase in the ration early in the year. Arrivals of allocations from Asia's exporting countries, however, have not been up to expectations, and consumption of stocks made imperative the decrease in the amount distributed per person.

The Government purchased from producers around 80 million pounds of milled rice from this year's domestic crop (January-March), which at the present rate of consumption, is equal to about 6 weeks' supply. The new ration is reported to require about 13 million pounds of rice weekly for total consumption. At this rate, annual utilization equals about one-third of the prewar average of 2,040 million pounds a year.

FATS AND OILS

SAO PAULO'S OIL OUTPUT BELOW DOMESTIC NEEDS

Vegetable-oil production in the State of Sao Paulo, Brazil, fell below domestic requirements in 1946. Cottonseed-oil output, which made up 84 percent of the edible oil and 76 percent of all vegetable oils in 1946, was less than half the annual average of the preceding five years. Short cotton crops in 1945 and 1946 reduced the cottonseed-oil output in 1946 from the 1940-44 average of 87,800 short tons to 35,300 tons. Supplies of other edible oils were too small to ease the oil shortage. Edible oils from corn, peanuts, and coconut and babassu oil processed from nuts received from north Brazil, which were relatively insignificant before the war, totaled 6,900 short tons.

Castor-oil production in 1946 reached 4,380 tons, of which about 3,300 tons were used domestically for the manufacture of paint, soap, chemicals, and medicines. The output of tung oil, an expanding industry, reached about 93 tons, of which about 40 tons are used annually.

Vegetable oils became so scarce during the past year that the Government rationed fats and oils to consumers and industrial users through the last six months. No licenses to export cottonseed oil were issued after February 1946, and exports of edible oils and oilseeds were banned after August 2, 1946.

The export of castor beans from Santos dropped from 63,400 tons in 1945 to 10,800 tons in 1946, nearly all of which vent to the United States. Castor-oil exports of 1,250 tons were larger than in previous years. Exports of other drying oils, tung, ouricury, and oiticica, amounted to about 440 tons.

An increase in vegetable oil production for 1947 is expected if the current cotton crop reaches present estimates, but although production will probably exceed the requirements of Sao Paulo, an exportable surplus from Brazil is not likely. Large numbers of tung trees are now reaching bearing age and an output of tung oil double the production of 1946 is expected in 1947.

ARGENTINE TUNG-OIL PROSPECTS BRIGHT

Argentina's 1947 tung-oil production is estimated at about 4 500 short tons, compared with 2,700 last season and 100 in 1941. If this year's estimate is realized, exports should be much larger than the 1,790 tons shipped during last year since domestic consumption is normally from 500 to 600 tons.

Of the 10.5 million tung trees in Argentina only 3 to 4 million are currently producing. Within the next few years tung-oil output is expected to reach 30,000 tons. Tung plantings in Misiones, the most important producing area, increased rapidly after the Argentine Government prohibited expansion of yerba mate in 1936. An official survey in 1944 showed that 97 percent of the total tung trees were in that Territory. The Misiones climate and soil are reported to be particularly well adapted to the tung plant. Frosts seldom affect the trees in the spring, yet they do occur with sufficient frequency for about 2 months from the beginning to the middle of winter to give the trees a good rest period. When in full bearing on the better lands, the yield per acre is about 2.7 tons of nuts.

ARGENTINE SUNFLOWER. PEANUT CROPS DOWN

Argentine sunflower-seed production for 1947 is placed at 995,400 short tons, according to the first official estimate. This is an increase of l percent over the final figure for 1946 but a decrease of 8 percent from last year's comparable figure. Plantings of approximately 3.9 million acres were 4 percent less than in the previous year despite the fact that sunflowers largely replaced acreage decreases in corn and flaxseed in Buenos Aires and several other major sunflower-producing areas. An unusually good accumulation of moisture previous to and during the preparation and planting period offset a serious grasshopper invasion threat in some areas.

The first estimate indicates a peanut crop of 127,400 tons, decreases of 17 and 28 percent, respectively, from the final and the first estimate for 1946. This drop is the result of a 21 percent reduction in planted acreage, which reflected the producer's dissatisfaction with the Government's buying price.

TOBACCO

SOUTHERN BRAZIL TOBACCO CROP BELOW LAST YEAR

In 1946-47 tobacco production in the States of Rio Grande do Sul and Santa Catarina, Brazil, was substantially below last season's exceptionally large outturn.

The 1946-47 crop of flue-cured in Rio Grande, harvested in the early months of this year, is placed by reliable trade sources at about 33 million pounds. This compares with the record 1945-46 outturn of about 41 million pounds, and with average production of 17.7 million during the five seasons

1940-41 through 1944-45. Prices paid to producers for this year's flue-cured leaf ranged from 7.1 cents per pound for the lowest quality to 33 cents for top quality. In 1945-46, the range was from 6.3 cents to 29.1 cents.

Rio Grande's 1946-47 crop of <u>air-cured</u> leaf also totaled about 33 million pounds, or only one half the <u>66 million</u> pounds produced last year. Prices for 1946-47 crop air-cured ranged from 6.5 cents to 14.7 cents, compared with a range of from 3.9 cents to 11 cents last season. This sharp decline in tobacco production, and continued heavy demands, both from domestic manufacturers and exporters, have raised prices above last year's levels.

In Santa Catarina, 1946-47 flue-cured production amounted to about 1.2 million pounds, compared with only about 400,000 pounds the previous season. Air-cured production in this State, however, showed a sharp decline in 1946-47, with production totaling about 7.4 million pounds, compared with 11 million in 1945-46.

Exports of leaf, principally air-cured, from Rio Grande and Santa Catarina, in 1946 totaled 39 million pounds. The Netherlands and the Soviet Union were important purchasers. Reports indicate that the United Kingdom and France may be interested in making purchases this year, since prices are still relatively low when compared with those in the United States. Leaf stocks, however, held by domestic cigarette manufacturers, who depend on the production of these States for the bulk of their supplies, are extremely low. It is probable, therefore, that the prospective heavy demand for this year's leaf may not be met in full.

HUNGARY PLANS LARGER TOBACCO ACREAGE

The Hungarian State Monopoly hopes to achieve a 1947 tobacco area of 46,000 acres, from which about 43 million pounds of leaf would be harvested, according to a report from the American Legation at Budapest. Last year, yields were extremely low because of drought, and only 27.5 million pounds were produced from 37,000 acres. The average crop during the 5 years (1935-39) amounted to 45.9 million pounds from 37,000 acres. Despite the fact that tobacco-growing was made compulsory for certain farmers since the war's end, the 1945 and 1946 crops were well below the prewar average. In addition the inexperience of many growers in tobacco cultivation, and inadequate curing facilities have resulted in inferior quality leaf and low prices.

In prewar years, exports of dark air-cured leaf from Hungary were substantial. During the 5 years (1935-39) exports averaged 19.2 million pounds annually. The principal purchasers were France, the Netherlands, Austria, Belgium, and Germany. During the war, exports continued on a large scale with Germany taking most of the export leaf. The extremely low production, however, in 1945 and 1946 provided no export surplus, and no shipments have been made since the end of the war, despite commercial agreements with France, the Netherlands, and Austria providing for such exports.

Imports of leaf into Hungary averaged 3 million pounds annually during the prevar period, but only 72,000 pounds yearly were from the United States. Last year, only 830,000 pounds were imported from all sources.

COTTON AND OTHER FIBERS

WEEKLY COTTON PRICES ON FOREIGN MARKETS

COTTON: Spot prices of certain foreign growths and qualities in specific markets.

Market location, kind, and quality 1947 weight Unit of currency Price in Equivalent foreign U.S. cents
Ashmouni, Good
Ashmouni, Good
Ashmouni, F.G.F. " " " 37.25 : 31.05 Giza 7, Good. " " " " 41.75 : 34.80 Giza 7, F.G.F. " " " 38.75 : 32.30 Karnak, Good. " " " 41.50 : 34.59 Karnak, F.G.F. " " 39.50 : 32.92 Bombay : Candy : T84 lbs. Rupee 430.00 : 16.54 Broach, Fine. " " 495.00 : 19.04 Sind American, Fine. " " 540.00 : 20.77 Punjab " 289-F, Fine: " " 620.00 : 23.85
Giza 7, Good. " " " 41.75 : 34.80 Giza 7, F.G.F. " " 38.75 : 32.30 Karnak, Good. " " " 41.50 : 34.59 Karnak, F.G.F. " " 39.50 : 32.92 Bombay : Candy : : : 39.50 : 32.92 Bombay : Candy : : : 495.00 : 16.54 Broach, Fine. " " 495.00 : 19.04 Sind American, Fine. " " 540.00 : 20.77 Punjab " 289-F, Fine: " " 620.00 : 23.85
Giza 7, F.G.F. " " 38.75 32.30 Karnak, Good. " " " 41.50 34.59 Karnak, F.G.F. " " 39.50 32.92 Bombay : Candy : 39.50 16.54 Broach, Fine. " 784 lbs. Rupee 430.00 16.54 Broach, Fine. " " " 495.00 19.04 Sind American, Fine. " " 540.00 20.77 Punjab " 289-F, Fine: " " 620.00 23.85
Karnak, Good. " " " 41.50 : 34.59 Karnak, F.G.F. " " " 39.50 : 32.92 Bombay : Candy : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
Karnak, Good
Karnak, F.G.F
Bombay : Candy : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
Jarila, Fine
Broach, Fine
Sind American, Fine: ": ": 540.00: 20.77 Punjab " 289-F, Fine: ": ": 620.00: 23.85
Punjab " 289-F, Fine: " : " : 620.00 : 23.85
runjab 209-r, rine: : : 020.00: 23.05
Buenos Aires : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : : :
Lima : :Sp. quintal : : :
Tanguis, Type 5 : 101.4 lbs.: Sol : 159.00 : 24.12
Pima, Type 1 " : " : (not:quoted)
Recife : :Arroba : : :
Mata, Type 5:5-30 : 33.07 lbs. : Cruzeiro : 120.00 : 19.74
Sertao, Type 5 ": ": 120.00: 19.74
Sao Paulo : : : : : :
Torreon : :Sp. quintal: : ::
Middling, 15/16" ": 101.4 lbs.: Peso : 139.50: 28.30

Compiled from weekly cables from representatives abroad.

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

WORLD OUTPUT OF DAIRY PRODUCTS, FIRST QUARTER 1947

Production of manufactured dairy products in most of the principal producing countries of the world in the first quarter of 1947 increased over that for the same period a year ago. In Denmark, where conditions were favorable for production, milk output in this quarter was larger than in a year earlier. From an increase of approximately 5 percent in milk production,

the output of butter increased 9 percent, and cheese about 49 percent. On this Continent, in both Canada and the United States, milk production in the first quarter of this year showed an improvement over the first quarter of last year. In Canada, this increase was small, but at the same time fluidmilk sales dropped. The loss to the fluid-milk industry represented a gain to dairy factories. Milk production in the United States in the first three months of 1947 exceeded the same months of last year, in spite of a 2-percent decrease in the number of cows on farms. Milk consumption in this period dropped below that of last year. The increase in the quantity of milk thus made available for manufacturing purposes was paralleled in the rise in production of all dairy products. In Argentina, owing to an abundance of rainfall and moderate weather, milk production and the output of manufactured products were well maintained. Abundant rainfall in New Zealand in the first quarter of 1947 caused wonderful pasture growth. Dairy production was back to normal, running considerably ahead of the drought season last year. Milk production in Switzerland continued at a level barely equal to that of last year. In the United Kingdom the effect of adverse weather upon milk production was reflected in a lowered output of manufactured dairy products.

Butter production in the first quarter of 1947 in several of the more important butter-producing countries showed an improvement over the same quarter of last year. Output in the United States in the opening quarter of the current year was 41 percent above last year's and showed the largest increase for any product manufactured in this country. Production in Argentina continued high, being 13 percent above a year ago.

Some increases in production occurred in Denmark and in Canada in this period. There are indications that output in New Zealand also is above that of a year ago. Production in Switzerland and in the United Kingdom in the first quarter of 1947 dropped below that for the same quarter of a year ago.

Cheese production in the United States in the January-March period of this year exceeded that for the same period a year ago by 23 percent. This increase was accounted for in the manufacture of American cheese, which showed a substantial gain over last year. Output of other varieties of whole-milk cheeses declined during this period. Production in Denmark in this quarter was 49 percent above that of the same quarter of 1946. In Argentina, cheese production dropped to 96 percent of last year but was the only dairy product manufactured there which did not show an increase. Production in Canada, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom also declined below the levels of a year ago.

Canned-milk production in the opening quarter of the current year rose above production in the same quarter last year. In the United States output increased 6 percent. This improvement occurred in the manufacture of evaporated milk, which was approximately 15 percent above that for the same period last year. The over-all increase in canned-milk output was limited to 6 percent in this period because of a significant decline in the output of the condensed product.

Increases also occurred in this quarter in Canada, where production was 5 percent above the same 3 months a year ago, and in Argentina and

Output in principal producing and exporting countries, first quarter (calendar) 1947, with comparisons DAIRY PRODUCTS:

Quarter 1947 1946	Percent	101 141 109 109 109 113 113 1149 1149 1149 1149 1149 1149
lst quarter	1,000 : pounds :	30,557 299,985 10,316 63,452 7777 34,167 5,416 251,995 23,368 8,369 4,525 53,155
4th guarter	1,000 pounds	267,790 26,9886 10,196 10,196 10,196 10,196 11,786 131,580 131,682 26,455 26,655
3d quarter	1,000 pounds	101, 135 347, 925 17, 943 28, 553 28, 553 28, 563 29, 563 20, 191 20, 193 38, 204 43, 651 19, 125 29, 443 39, 171 10, 270 10, 270 1
2d juarter	. 000 	33, 491 10, 533 10, 538 10, 53
lst quarter	1,000 : 1	20, 185 E. 2
tal 1946 :	1,000 : pounds :	271,366 12/162,540 1152,540 116,0628 116,0628 116,0624 119,0627 119,0627 112,142 118,509 12,096,815 12,096,815 12,096,199
	1,000	248,119 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19 19
product :		Canada' United States Belgium Denmark Eire Finland Germany Netherlands Sweden Argentina United Kingdom Argentina Union of South Africa Astralia New Zealand - total : I/ Export gradings : I/ Sweden Switzerland United States United States Denmark Italy 1/ Netherlands m/ Sweden Switzerland United States United States Denmark Italy 1/ Netherlands m/ Sweden
	Average Total 1946 1st 2d 3d 4th 1st 1934-38 quarter quarter quarter	product Average 1934-38 Total 1946 1st 2d 3d 4th 1st 1,000 <t< td=""></t<>

Output in principal producing and exporting countries, first quarter (calendar) 1947, with comparisons DAIRY FRODUCTS:

First	quarter 1947	Percent	105 100		100	53	3.26		ı	383		1	ı		92	55	125		1
1947	lst quarter	1,000 pounds	37,379 : 945,115 :	. , 664	1,784	15,142 :	3,146:		1	0, 481	194,770 :	. 1	2,742:		1,015:	2,688:	4,857	. 1	1
	4th quarter	1,000 :	b/ 38,048 \overline{b}/779,955			\													
٠,	3d guarter	1,000 pounds	72, 946:b/ /1, 275, 610: <u>b</u> /7	10,72	19,546	30,285	1,936	26,217	•	78.429	213,720	1,496	1	17,403	1,904	20,960	1,731	14,133	. 1
1946	2d quarter	1,000 pounds	$\frac{b}{b}$ 83,850: $\frac{b}{b}$: aoc (/	13:	93,274:	2,158:	20,598:	2,331:		315,240:	1,123:		11,283:	2,214:	25,894:	2,708:	10,516:	2,894:
	lst quarter	1,000 :	b/ 35,525 1		ads 304,896 33,118 1,409 1,389,4,966; and 14,198 15,049 1,413 5,889; 4,969; Ingdom 378,560 10,143 28,762 93,274; 30,283:10,24 a	: 10,950 :	: 7,845 :												
	Total 1946	1,000 pounds	230, 4,508,	31,019	38,118 15.040	174,631	6,438	114,735				3,665.	14,028	55,984					•
	Average 1934-38	1,000 : pounds :	2,469,535 : <u>b/</u>	2/ 32, 784 : 40, 785 :	304,896:	378,560 :b/				23.488	203,555		2,205:	56,438	•••	•••	/ď	•••	
	Country and product		Canned Milk Canada m/ United States n/	Cuba Denmark	Netherlands Switzerland	United Kingdom:					•		Denmark	Netherlands	Switzerland	United Kingdom :	••	Australia :	New Zealand :

a/Greamery butter. b/Revised. c/These figures represent controlled production of butter, d/Total production of all butter is estimated at 62 million pounds in 1946. c/Total production of all butter is estimated at 680 million pounds in 1946. f/Froduction year beginning July 1. \overline{g} /Based on one month's production only. h/Production year beginning August 1. \overline{g} /Based on 2 months' production only. \overline{g} /Fastory cheese. 1/Total cheese, and includes cheese made from milk of sheep and goats, m/Includes farm cheese. n/Both bulk and case scools. 0/Less than a 5-year average. p/Total dried-whole milk and dried-skim milk for human consumption, \overline{g} / Quantity small. \overline{g} / For 1938 only. Prepared or estimated from official statistics, United States foreign service Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. reports, and other information,

Switzerland, in each of which it was 26 percent above last year. Canned milk was the only product manufactured in the latter country which showed an improvement in this period. Production in the United Kingdom in the first three months of 1947 declined to 53 percent of last year's output.

Dried-milk output in the larger producing countries was higher in the first quarter of 1947, compared with the first three months of 1946. The largest increase occurred in Argentina, where output was 25 percent above last year. Production in Canada was up 19 percent in this quarter, the largest improvement in dairy product manufacture for that country. Output in the United States rose 13 percent over last year's levels. Switzerland's production declined to 92 percent, while that of the United Kingdom dropped sharply to 37 percent.

Current conditions: Washington: Total milk production on farms in April was slightly above the same month a year ago. Milk production per cow was near record for the month but there were fewer milk cows on farms than in Apr 1 1946.

Ottawa: Pastures are late, but the abundant moisture supplies offer favorable expectations for a good growth of grass with the advent of warm weather.

London: The late season for grass in the United Kingdom may reduce milk yields.

Bern: Beginning May 1, 1947, the milk ration in Switzerland was raised from 10 to 11 liters per person per month,

Buenos Aires: Dairymen in Argentina expect the milk flow to continue good throughout April and possibly until mid-May, depending upon when the cold weather begins.

U. K. SETS ANNUAL WOOL SALE DATES

Sales for the last half of 1947 in the United Kingdom as announced by the United Kingdom Wool D.sposals, Itd., will be as follows: London, July 7, 3 weeks; September 15, 3 weeks; November 17, 3 weeks; Liverpool October 20, 3 weeks. The sale on July 7 is a postponement of the one previously advertised for June 30th. The first London sale in 1948 is scheduled tentatively for January 19.

News Note: Peru's Ministry of Agriculture reports an outbreak of footand-mouth disease near Punto on the Bolivian border. A local quarantine has been established.